



# The Influence of Athletics on Aggressive Behavior In Division III Collegiate Athletes

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## Introduction:

- **Aggressive Behaviors in Athletics:**
- The media portrays professional athletes as suspects of domestic violence
- Argued that sports have a culture that can be translated into aggressive actions towards others
- Early detection of aggressive behavior may allow us to advise athletes to seek help
- **Measuring Aggression Levels:**
- Inconsistencies in literature in regards to what plays a role in aggression levels in athletics
- Buss & Perry Survey can measure aggression and the results can be shown to athletes

## Research Question:

- Does athletics influence aggression levels in division III collegiate athletes?

## Materials:

- Ohio Northern University Qualtrics
- Ohio Northern University Email
- Buss & Perry Survey

1 = extremely uncharacteristic of me  
 2 = somewhat uncharacteristic of me  
 3 = neither uncharacteristic nor characteristic of me  
 4 = somewhat characteristic of me  
 5 = extremely characteristic of me

1. Some of my friends think I am a hothead
2. If I have to resort to violence to protect my rights, I will.
3. When people are especially nice to me, I wonder what they want.
4. I tell my friends openly when I disagree with them.
5. I have become so mad that I have broken things.

## Methods:

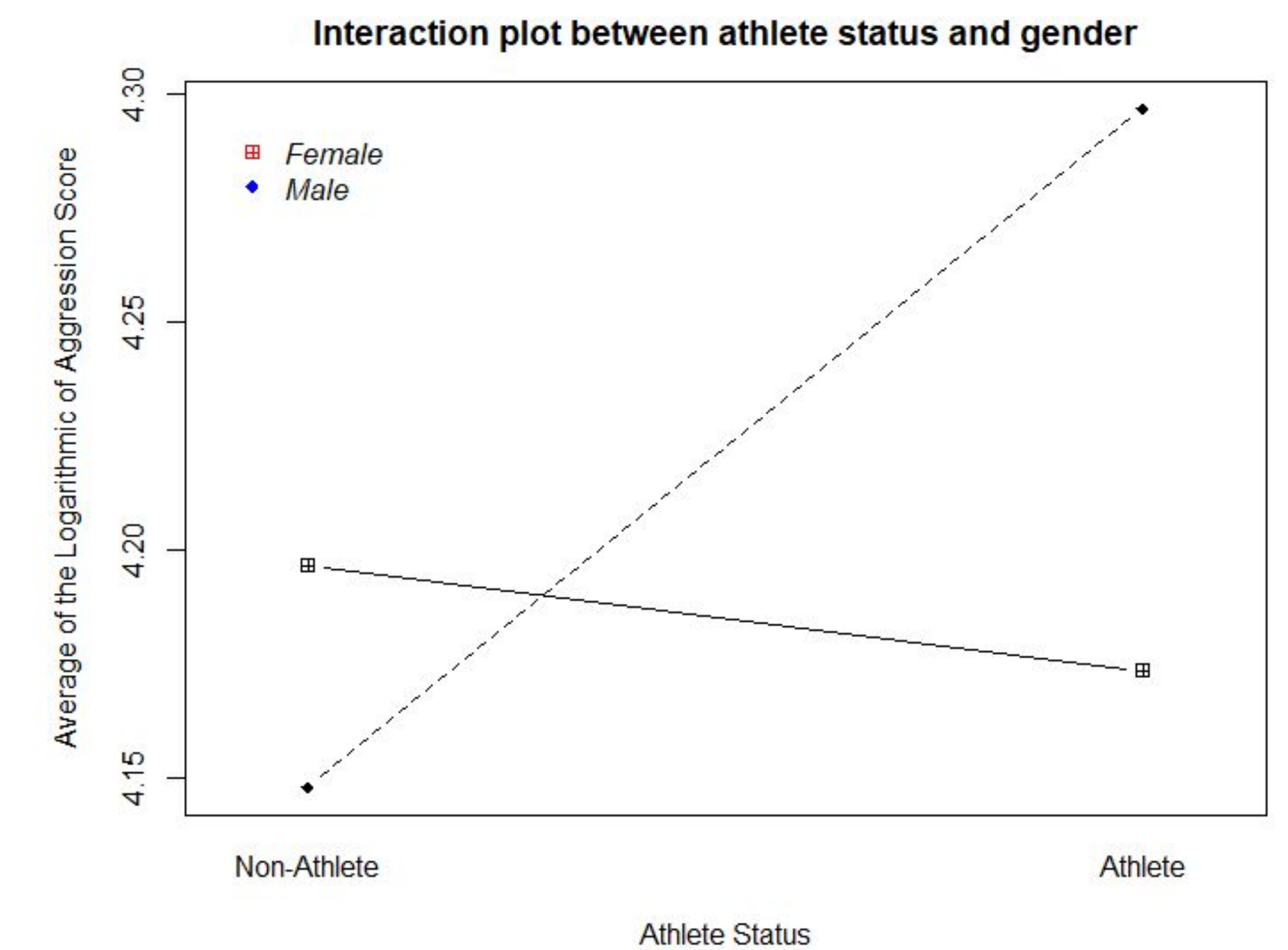
- Buss & Perry Survey sent out to all Ohio Northern University students; Email sent to Student-L for approval
- 224 students participated, 98 athletes & 126 non-athletes
- 29 question survey; rank statements 1-5
- Survey measures verbal aggression, physical aggression, anger, & hostility
- Participants' gender, if they are currently a collegiate athlete on an active Ohio Northern University roster, and what sport they participate in was asked (if 'yes' to athlete)
- All participants were 18-24 years of age
- Qualtrics was used to create the survey & collect data

## Statistical Analysis:

- We applied a two-way ANOVA model with interaction to the data to determine if there was a statistical difference between the means of the 4 groups
- Tukey test was then used on the data to determine if there is a difference in means between the 4 groups
- P value was set at p=.05 (95% Confidence Level)

	Sample Size	Mean	Max	Min	Standard Deviation
Male Athlete	65	75.06	117	49	15.64
Female Non-Athlete	80	68.35	108	38	16.13
Female Athlete	33	66.64	100	37	15.17
Male Non-Athlete	46	65.15	107	42	16.19

## Results:



- Mean aggression score of male athletes is higher than mean aggression score of female athletes/non-athlete and male non-athlete.

## Conclusion:

- After collecting the data, it was determined that there was a significant difference between the average aggression score of athlete and non-athlete, where the pattern of the difference also depends on the participant's gender. The results show that male athletes have a higher aggression score than any other group. Factors that may have influenced the results are the small sample size, the inclusion of all teams in the survey, and separating verbal aggression, physical aggression, hostility, and anger in the survey results.

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